## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 ANKARA 08630 291018Z ACTION INR-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 NSAE-00 /020 W

-----128677 291022Z/23

R 290935Z NOV 77

FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA TO AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 9621

SECRETANKARA 8630

E.O. 11652: XGDS-2 TAGS: PINR, IS, TU

SUBJECT: FOREIGN MINISTRY ASSISTANT DIRECTOR-GENERAL DIVON

REF: (A) TEL AVIV 9841, (B) 75 STATE 135085

- 1. REF. B'S ASSESSMENT OF DIVON AS "ACTIVE, ENERGETIC AND CRISPLY CORDIAL" WAS CERTAINLY BORNE OUT DURING HIS ANKARA ASSIGNMENT. DIVON QUICKLY ESTABLISHED RAPPORT WITH TURKISH OFFICIALS AND DIPLOMATIC COLLEAGUES. DURING HIS TENURE THE ISRAELI RESIDENCE WAS THE SCENE OF MANY POPULAR EVENINGS OF ENTERTAINMENT WHICH OFTEN FEATURED TURKISH FOLK MUSIC GROUPS, POETRY AND DRAMATIC READINGS.
- 2. DIVON'S SERVICE HERE WAS NOTEWORTHY FOR HIS CONTINUED EFFORTS TO IMPROVE ISRAELI-TURKISH RELATIONS AND TO BRING ABOUT CLOSER COLLABORATION BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES. HE HAD ACCESS TO A WIDE RANGE OF LEADING FIGURES. HE EVIDENTLY WON THE RESPECT OF TURKISH MFA OFFICIALS THROUGH HIS PERSISTENCE AND DETAILED KNOWLEDGE OF THE TURKISH SITUATION. IN LATE 1976 DIVON SPEARHEADED AN ISRAELI EFFORT TO SELL SOPHISTICATED WEAPONS TO TURKEY AND, ALTHOUGH THE TURKS DECLINED, THEY DID SO FOR POLITICAL REASONS, NOT BECAUSE OF DIVON'S LACK OF ABILITY AS A SALESMAN. DIVON IS APPARENTLY PRO-AMERICAN AND WENT OUT OF HIS WAY TO ESTABLISH WARM RELATIONS WITH EMBASSY OFFICERS. IN SECRET

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PAGE 02 ANKARA 08630 291018Z

ADDITION TO LANGUAGES CITED IN REF. B, DIVON SPEAKS FLUENT SPANISH, AND HE LEARNED TURKISH AT THE POST.

3. HIS WIFE DIED OF A HEART ATTACK TWO DAYS BEFORE THEY WERE TO LEAVE. DILLON

SECRET

NNN

## Message Attributes

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Concepts: BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION, MINISTERS (DIPLOMATS), PERSONNEL APPOINTMENTS

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Disposition Event:
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Subject: FOREIGN MINISTRY ASSISTANT DIRECTOR-GENERAL DIVON

TAGS: PINR, IS, TU, XF, (DIVON, SHMUEL)

To: TEL AVIV Type: TE

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